

# EARTH FIRST!

## ACTION UPDATE

No 16 30p  
MAY 95 WHERE SOLD

### No M65

### STOP PRESS: STANWORTH EVICTED 5TH MAY

Stanworth Valley (near Blackburn in Lancashire) in the route of the M65, faces eviction from May 1st. As from the 26th of April, Stanworth Village in the Sky consists of an amazing tree community. Around 60 people share 40 tree houses spread over about twelve acres of ancient woodland. All tree-houses are between 60 and 100 years old, built on ground and are connected by a 100-metre long walkway. Over the last weekend, the 100+ here will host a Bellaine Festival, the chance to enjoy the largest remaining piece of ancient woodland in Lancashire before the bulldozers move in. There will be live music, a camp kitchen, fire-pit, craft fair, and many more. Stanworth is expected Monday May 1st, the whole valley probably be the biggest and longest evictions demonstration in history in England's direct action history. To run the gauntlet May 1st, before they have the chance, get there now! Contact 01254 36564 / 0588 164311, 0161 401101. There will be Mass Troops at the local roads on May 11th, in memory of year of direct action against the M65.

### FRESH AIR Now

Members of E.F. are launching a week long campaign to stop the planned demolition of the main issues in the up coming council election. Areas are including Fresh Air Now, and Stanworth Valley. This is one of the worst cases of pollution in the country, yet it is to be given almost no attention. They actions will include banner drops, leaflets, a general protest, and a protest march to the AGM of the local Dyfed Quarry & Minerals.

### MORE QUARRIES = MORE LORRIES = MORE

#### ROADS ...

In the Glamorgan Valley near Abergavenny, in South Wales, McAlpine aim to 'pe' a 3-mile major link road through woodland and beat up Carmel Woods, last resting place of the legend of Owain Llwyd. It will also destroy 100s of ancient woodland (over 1000 years old) and damage the local ecology. Despite opposition from Carmel Woods and Ammanford, Llwyd and the local community, 2/3 of the route planned will be used for road building. The double-decker bus used to carry cement for the brutal quarrying and gas company public utility vehicles in McAlpine's plans have been dismissed. Order! Order! The road should immediately be withdrawn in order to not damage back on its feet. Because IDO's evade wildlife protection legislation these laws are invalid. The successful use of an IDO could set a horrific precedent.

CONTACT: Campaign for the Protection of the Gwenslais Valley, Bryn Llwyn, Carmel, Llanelli, Dyfed SA14 7TP

Meanwhile in the Mendips, Somerset (Western Europe's most heavily quarried area) ARC



Wimpey ECO and Foster Yellor are producing 10 million tonnes of stone each year at Gwaway quarry. Wimpey is to expand on Gwaway. ROAD BUILDING. The quarry industry will be required to construct and maintain a new 10-mile route. This means site access, the construction of the B4106 Greenhills road, which they are attempting to disguise as a "Quarry Farm bypass". This road will significantly aid the expansion of quarrying in the Mendips. CONTACT: Some Valley Nos. 102, Peartree St, Bristol BS10 7TA. Avon Gorge E.P. and Planning, County Hall, May 0174 823190.

A major bit of good news is the one of Dyfed County Council's plans has been scrapped by Dyfed County Council. Contact: Welsh Animal Openups, 11 Park Ave., Plassey, May Glamorgan, Llandaff. E.P. are planning an anti-quarrying action, near Leeks in mid Wales and urge other groups to get involved. UC16 6z365.

With are the South Wales, The Mendips, Yorkshire Dales and the Scottish Highlands. Yesterday we took to the streets now to day. Today's action is the Ceil Barriers. When we're done, we'll be in the dragon (probably with barbed wire). McAlpine at the bottom!!!

### M77

There are continuing at the Park Estate where Wimpey are trying to build the M77. It now seems certain that Wimpey have redesigned the route of the road to avoid the Pollok Free State which is protecting a small beech woodland, having apparently decided that this is easier than attempting another eviction. April saw the occupation of local Wimpey Show homes, a demo outside Wimpey's AGM and the presentation to Glasgow City Council planning department of a

similar model of Pollok Free State! A big nationalised for Climate Action Day on May 14 and month of almost daily actions is on the way. Please contact Glasgow E.P. 0141 9426777. data = Help and support in Scotland

### BERLIN

Environmental activists from all over Europe were in Berlin for the Climate is Right Conference at the beginning of April. There were workshops and panels to demands with the Climate Change conference attended by government ministers from around the world. The conference lobby went on to meet with the European Union's executive committee, the European Climate Coalition (ECC), and the European Parliament. These demands are calling for the defence of our planet. Many major actions were used to highlight the climate change issue, such as blockades with street parties and vigilante actions like the ride with 100,000 people. The prevented delegates from leaving the conference they had achieved an historic loss. Delegates and actions also occurred during the conference. One young woman, marching to US大使馆 (ambassador's office), ripped off her paper and said, "I'm 19 years old and destroying my planet!" The protest was well received by the 3rd World Delegates (these were a bit of a letdown - if the inability of government to listen to public concern rather than profit motives - this was it. The only public pressure they're used to listen to is the sort that locks itself to their Mercedes).

### EARTH FIRST! GATHERING

Well, what can we say ... around a 100 of some of the most beautiful and dedicated people in the Earth First movement gathered near Swindon over Easter weekend to discuss where we're

going, what we've been up to and how to strengthen radical, grassroots environmentalism. Workshops were held, but most of the discussion was done around camp fires, during football matches or just lying in the sun!

McDonalds kindly provided the site for action training, which resulted in the central McDonald's in Swindon being closed down. Costing McDonald's £5000 and a drive through was also occupied.

A selection of issues were raised at the gathering, far too many to report here. Some of the main ones are discussed below (note, this is a personal opinion of the gathering only).

Leeds EFI suggested creating regional networking groups, but no other groups volunteered to take this on. Regional networking needs to be strengthened although this appears to be occurring naturally to some extent. Sabotage was also discussed. The opinions were diverse, but with the CJA now potentially threatening 3 month jail sentences for peacefully sitting on a digger the appeal of sabotage will obviously increase.

The reality of "the compromise in defence of the earth" was raised as some groups trying to alter local government policy may be involved in some form of compromise. It was felt that Earth First! should include more pro-active activities, meaning setting our own agenda, as well as opposing the states. The land reform movement, Critical Mass and Reclaim the Streets being examples of campaigns asking for positive change. We need space and land to create caring, low impact communities, especially now that many people have glimpsed their potential during long term campaigns. Some felt we should record our own history by marking particular dates, creating photographic documents etc.

Thanks go to the farmer who lent us his land, to those who helped organise it and to "Close to the Edge" for some excellent catering. The next gathering will be late September in Lancashire. Contact Merseyside EFI with offers of help, workshop ideas etc. 0151 794 4167

#### SOLSBUY HILL

As if it's not enough to carve a dual carriage way through Solsbury Hill and Bathampton watermeadows, Amey now want to dump their waste spoil in all 60 reservoirs on the side of the Hill, so far unaffected by the works. The area is an important habitat and breeding ground for birds. Please do solidarity actions against your local Amey office or work site. Otherwise, phone Amey and tell them what you think: 01225 480770. Solsbury Hill Action Group (SHAG) are also planning a summer gathering on the Hill August 11th - 14th. Actions, camping, music and fun - make it the biggest ever! Contact 0374 953160 Note: This contact number has not been working over April but should now be in order.

#### LAMB

The Lloyds and Midland Boycott Campaign is continuing its fight to improve banks ethical and environmental lending criteria. Lloyds Bank Annual General Meeting was recently disrupted with share holders being forcibly removed after inquiring into the banks ethical lending policy. There's a Day of Action on the 3rd May and Midland Bank's AGM is on the 24th May - contact

LAMB to become a shareholder! 0161 2744665

#### A30

Actions are continuing down at the A30 with 6 tree houses now in place after a successful barricading weekend. There are rumours of an eviction around the 14th May. A Beltane Gathering has also just occurred. 0385 278157/278156 for further info and offers of support.

#### M11

The resistance to the M11 continues. Keeping pace with the D.O.T onslaught, the campaigners continue to use strategy and tactics fuelled by effort and imagination. The focus has shifted once more, now to a beautiful 4 storey Victorian house renamed "Munstonia" (so called as you'd expect Herman Munster to answer the door). "Till recently this fine property was wasted as living quarters for the D.O.T's lackey security guards; but was reclaimed after careful observation, stealth and decisive use of bottle. Now the squat's established, there's urgent need for barricades to turn the house into a fortress against the forces of "progress". Munstonia is easy to find: Leytonstone Tube, then right up Fillebrook Rd. It's the only house left standing on a street that's now a moonscape. Once there knock on the tin fence. People are needed. Bring tools and the skills, imagination and sound attitude. 0181 9898741

#### HUNT SAB UPDATE

Latest figures for arrests under the Criminal Justice Act are encouraging: we have had 297 arrests this season (not massively up on average) of which 148 have been under section 68-69 of the Criminal Justice Act. Of the CJA cases, there have been 3 convictions, one bind-over and at least a third (51 at last count) of the cases have been dropped before getting to court. In fact, the picture looks even better as we reckon that at least 75% of the CJA cases will fail. Most of these will probably turn out to be unlawful arrests instigating a cash bonanza for hunt sab equal to the Home Office's last "clamp down" (83 separate civil actions, costing various police forces over £250,000).

If you deduct the daft CJA arrests from the total, it's not bad for this season, particularly considering local distortions - i.e. 80 of the arrests have been in Cheshire where the police have adopted an "arrest on sight" policy, over which they are likely to come badly unstuck. Contact Hunts Sabs for your nearest group on 0115 9590357

#### CLIMATE ACTION DAY

May 15th is Climate Action Day, with groups from Finland to Kenya highlighting the risk of global warming associated with increased carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Many groups are fighting projects that cause increases in carbon dioxide - like motorways, power plants and logging of old-growth forests. More than 400 groups in 68 countries have taken part in Climate Action Days - what's your action going to be? Contact 'The Climate is Right for Change' Campaign in Amsterdam for details: +31-20-6928757, Email [climax@antenna.nl](mailto:climax@antenna.nl)

#### CARDIFF BAY BARRAGE

Cardiff EFI took to the Seas with their first boat action against the construction of the Cardiff Bay



THINGS PEARL UP IN CARDIFF BAY!

Barrage in April. The barrage will destroy the breeding ground of migratory wading birds in an attempt to create a dockland environment. This is the first TOTAL destruction of a SSSI and it won't even produce electricity! Activists tried to board the dredging ship but were knocked back by the ship's Belgian crew turning a power hosepipe on them. When this failed to repel all the protesters one of the dredger crew decided to use his fists, knocking one of them into the water. A welding torch was produced to remove one D-locked protester! Work was disrupted but not to the extent that had been hoped. The tactic of circling the dredger but not boarding it proved more successful... Other rigs were sailed to and slogans sprayed on them. More actions are planned using the lessons learnt.

#### PRISONER SUPPORT

Jim Chambers, an veteran M11 protester on remand for alleged Criminal Damage, has been moved from Wormwood Scrubs to Pentonville. Write to him and tell him what you've been up to - what's happening in the world. He needs support and has found letters a real boost: JIM CHAMBERS, PV 2504, HMP PENTONVILLE, CALEDONIAN ROAD, LONDON, N7 8TT. Chris Cole who has been campaigning against British Aerospace's sale of Hawk fighter aircraft to Indonesia has been sentenced to 6 months imprisonment for breaking his injunction not to trespass, or to incite others to trespass, on BAe property. Contact 0151 5461688 for his address. The Spring edition of Earth Liberation Prisoners is out now, giving 16 pages of information on prisoners of conscience from the green, animal rights, tribal, peace and anti-fascist movements. This is ESSENTIAL READING, get it now by sending an SAE and donation (50p+) to ELP, c/o Box 23, 5 High St, Glastonbury, Somerset. Email: PMBlackmore@ncl.ac.uk

#### GRASS ROUTES TOUR '95

Manchester Earth First! are taking a roadshow round Central and Eastern Europe this summer. It will try to give locals a taste of direct action

#### How to contact Earth First! Action Update,

By phone 01222 383363 and dictate a message into our answerphone, or by post: Action Update c/o Cardiff EFI, PO Box 7, Cardiff, CF2 4XX, or by FAX on 01222 640666, or finally by email to [dhwilcox@cix.compulink.co.uk](mailto:dhwilcox@cix.compulink.co.uk) - with subject marked 'Action Update'. Articles should reach us not later than the 20th of the month for inclusion in next months AUI Thank you for your contributions. - The AU team.

*Subscriptions are handled by Manchester EFI! So if this isn't your copy then subscribe!*

# Diary Dates

MAY

1st - 31st Daily Actions against M77, Glasgow. 0141 9462700

1st - 14th Fresh Air Now Actions, Manchester 0161 2744665

Wed 3rd LAMB Day of Action. 0161 2744665

Thurs 4th Court Appearance of A3 Tree Dwellers

Thurs 4th: British Aerospace Engineering's AGM. Protest 1pm outside Marriott Hotel, Grosvenor Square, London. Actions inside. Contact: CAAT 0171 281 0297

Thurs 11th: Anniversary Actions at the M65, Preston. Continuing until the Sunday 0161 8617895

Sat 13th Life After the CJA Conference, Manchester. 0161 2321598

Sat 13th Procession Against Ashton Court Quarry Extension, Bristol. 0374 953160

Sun 14th Reclaim the Streets Street Party, London 0171 254 2290

Sun 14th Rally on proposed Newbury Bypass. 01635 521770

14 - 15th Mega Climate Action, Glasgow. 0141 9462700

Mon 15th: International Climate Action Day, 0031 20 6993 2024 - mad actions all over Europe

15th Earth Night - Poo - and Elves are coming out to play

Thurs 18th Shell AGM, London. Action by Reclaim the Streets. 0171 254 2290 Highlight the plight of the Ogoni people of Nigeria.

Sun 21st Bike to the Future, Hampton Court to Eton. Contact, FO 0171 490 1555

Wed 24th Midland Bank AGM. Actions 0161 2744665

Fri 26th Critical Mass Cycle Rides via most major cities

JUNE

Thurs 1st 10th Anniversary of the Battle of the Beanfield Actions in Wiltshire?? Contact P N. 0171 738 6721

Sat 3rd London to Stonehenge Walk begins. Assemble Battersea Park Peace Pagoda, noon

Sat 10th: Anniversary of Hawk Deal Protest Day of Action, Stop the Hawks 0171 561 1236

12th-25th South Coast Ramble Against Megaroad Madness 01293 864273

15th-17th: Liberty Human Rights Convention London 0171 403 3886

Tues 20th Car Free Day, Bath, Avon Gorge ELF 0374 953160

21st-25th Glastonbury Festival - help needed with ELF displays, cafe, marquee, organic veg. Any offers 0151 7944167

Sun 25th CND Conference, London 0171 700 2393

JULY

7th- 9th Major Anti CJA Free Festival -somewhere in south/ middle England

17 th - 23rd International Forest Action Camp, Norway. Training on forest direct actions. Fax: +46 60 612506

Wed 26th -Sun 30th: Big Green Gathering, Wiltshire 01747 870667. £25 no dogs.

AUGUST

1st - 18th: Ecotopia 95 Poland, 00 31 20 665 7743 - seriously big environmental gathering / communal living experience.

8th - 9th Nagasaki NVDA, Faslane Peace Camp 01436 820901

11th-14th Solsbury Hill Summer Gathering. Actions, Music and Fun!

SEPTEMBER

late September: Earth First! National Gathering, Lancashire. Workshops, help needed 0151 7944167

campaigning. The show will include Small World and other direct action videos, info about campaigns, tactics, workshops, and of course, direct action... three months to subvert as many people as possible! If you believe you can help find money (for the video equipment, they are paying their own travel expenses), contacts in Europe, pictures, information, T-shirts etc. for the stall, climbing gear, or any of your own ideas, please write, Email or call: Grass Routes Tour, 2 Hall Avenue, Manchester M14 5JD UK. Tel.0161 2744665

## WELLS RELIEF ROAD

Construction of the Wells "relief" road, bringing pollution to the children of England's smallest city, is soon to begin. Somerset County Council have sneakily started to tear down trees in preparation for this unpopular scheme which puts a road through local school playing fields. There will be a demonstration on April 29th. Meet 12 noon, Milton Roundabout, Wells. Support is urgently needed - contact Solsbury Hill Action Group for details, 0374 953160.

## A3 TREE CHOPPING

12 Protesters were arrested trying to stop the destruction of 330 trees planted as a memorial to Canadian servicemen killed in the two World Wars. On 5th April local MP Michael Mates gave his assurance that this desecration would be postponed until after VE day, but the remaining trees were all cut down that night. 3 of the protesters were arrested for assault but only one was charged, and will appear in court on the 4th May along with the 9 others arrested for Aggravated Trespass. Contacts 01635 521770 / 01428 606000.

## RECLAIM THE LAND

In the first people's protest, against the dwindling amount of common land, in 300 years more than 250 people reclaimed large tracts of Wisley aerodrome, 3 miles from St Georges Hill in Surrey for the last week in April. Currently 'set aside' under EU policy it was left in better shape than when occupied thanks to the planting of trees & crops. The action was designed to reassert people's control over how they live. The Land Is Ours' manifesto for land reform includes new common spaces, a redirection of farm subsidies towards small scale high employment land use and revision of the planning & public inquiry processes which deny people access to the land. "It's time to say what we want and find solutions - we're now going to set our own agenda."

## GREEN ANARCHIST RAIDED

The Inner Bookshop, which provided Green Anarchist with a postal address, was raided by Police in early March. On the 14th of March the house of its editor and printer was also raided. A computer, discs, cheque books etc. were taken along with many of the magazine's records. The police involved are believed to be from Hampshire

Special Branch. It is probable that Green Anarchist was targeted because of its support of groups like the A.L.F. and the Earth Liberation Front. New contact address is: Green Anarchist, BM 1715, London WC1N 3XX

## RAMBLE AGAINST MEGAROAD MADNESS!

A walk along the proposed route of the South Coast, Folkestone to Honiton Superhighway will be leaving Folkestone (Kent), Monday June 12 and finishing in Honiton (Devon), Sunday June 25. Walking will be at a modest pace and will visit the sites of the damaging road schemes now being fought along the route. Walks like this allow you to really enjoy some of the countryside and appreciate why we are all campaigning so hard. So, go and join in, just for a few hours, or up to the whole fortnight. Contact 01293 884273 for general info and details of the walk before Southampton, or 01305 773547 to join the walk after Southampton (18th June).

## NUCLEAR ALERT

Earlier Monday saw Greenpeace actions throughout the country to coincide with the Nuclear Weapons Non Proliferation Treaty Talks being held in New York. At Sellafield 61 people were arrested as 300 protesters broke into THORP, some dressed as drums of plutonium. Several locked on to the roof of the plant whilst others were confronted by armed security during an office occupation. Meanwhile, at Aldermaston atomic weapons research establishment, protesters poured 6 tons of concrete into a discharge pipe in an attempt to block it. On the 19th April, the 11 month old Women's Peace Camp at Menwith Hill, North Yorkshire, (the largest American Spy "Listening Centre" in the world) was evicted. 7 arrests were made and the women's caravans were seized. The camp is still there 100 yards down the road and it needs you more than ever. From April 28th May 1st the campaign group 'Shut Sellafield' will be holding an Action, Vigil, Peace Camp and Party. Celebrate Spring all weekend and remember Chernobyl on Sunday 30th. An action will occur on the Monday, full NVDA and legal briefings given. 01706 371387

## TARMAC IN DERBYSHIRE

The A564 is been built across Derbyshire, destroying beautiful countryside at a cost of 110 million pounds. Actions covering 3 different sites took place on the 23rd of March. Work at the junction of the A564 and A6 was disrupted, a pile driver was climbed and £2000 worth of delays were incurred for Tarmac. Actions planned for May and June. Contact 01785 52552 01332 204097

## MANCHESTER - ELF & CJA

The first ELF types to be prosecuted under the CJA went to court last month. They were found (justly) guilty. The punishment? A 1 year conditional discharge and a share of the costs (£50 each).

## EDITORIAL

Great Gathering! However we've still got one problem - there's no one to distribute Action Update! Yip, after a long and appreciated stint it's time for Manchester to pass it on and we need volunteers. Cardiff will continue to write it but someone needs to mail it out. Distribution takes a few days a month - printing, mailing and dealing with subscription details. So please seriously consider whether you could do it. We've had offers of cheap printing but what we really need is someone to give distribution their top priority. Also, please consider photocopying each edition and giving it away/selling it. If A3 is a problem, do it onto 2 doublesided sheets of A4 or even shrink it down onto one sheet of doublesided A4.

The deadline for the June edition is May 20th. So send us your articles, dates, photos etc., keeping them short and concise if you don't want to see our 100 word version of your 3000 word epic! Also, phone to check we've received it. Lastly, sorry to keep moaning, but we have no money to publicise Action Update. If you can spare anything at all please send stamps/cheques to EFAU in Cardiff.

Keep active, keep imaginative, get in the faces of those making a profit out of environmental destruction, and try to enjoy life while you're at it!

**DISCLAIMER: It wasn't us...it was, like, other kids 'n' stuff....!!**

# EF! CONTACTS

A30 Action,  
P.O. Box 185,  
Exeter EX4 4EW  
01392 438015, Mobile 07815

Aven Gorge EF!,  
Box 51,  
Greenleaf Bookshop  
82 Colston Street,  
Bristol BS1 5BB  
0374 953180

Belfast EF!,  
PO Box 148,  
Ulstermail BT1 2LZ

Birmingham EF!,  
c/o Aardvark Centre,  
Moseley,  
Birmingham B15  
0121 449 6575

Blackmore Vale,  
Agriculture & Health,  
Bath Road

Johnstone's National  
Health OT, 7-9 Ch

Brayford

Brookside  
Action Group  
107-111

Bromley Housing

New Phoenix C

Leeds 13

London 16

London 17

London 18

London 19

London 20

London 21

London 22

London 23

London 24

London 25

London 26

London 27

London 28

London 29

London 30

London 31

London 32

London 33

London 34

London 35

London 36

London 37

London 38

London 39

London 40

London 41

London 42

London 43

London 44

London 45

London 46

London 47

London 48

London 49

London 50

London 51

London 52

London 53

London 54

London 55

London 56

London 57

London 58

London 59

London 60

London 61

London 62

London 63

London 64

London 65

London 66

London 67

London 68

London 69

London 70

London 71

London 72

London 73

London 74

London 75

London 76

London 77

London 78

London 79

London 80

London 81

London 82

London 83

London 84

London 85

London 86

London 87

London 88

London 89

London 90

London 91

London 92

London 93

London 94

London 95

London 96

London 97

London 98

London 99

London 100

London 101

London 102

London 103

London 104

London 105

London 106

London 107

London 108

London 109

London 110

London 111

London 112

London 113

London 114

London 115

London 116

London 117

London 118

London 119

London 120

London 121

London 122

London 123

London 124

London 125

London 126

London 127

London 128

London 129

London 130

London 131

London 132

London 133

London 134

London 135

London 136

London 137

London 138

London 139

London 140

London 141

London 142

London 143

London 144

London 145

London 146

London 147

London 148

London 149

London 150

London 151

London 152

London 153

London 154

London 155

London 156

London 157

London 158

London 159

London 160

London 161

London 162

London 163

London 164

London 165

London 166

London 167

London 168

London 169

London 170

London 171

London 172

London 173

London 174

London 175

London 176

London 177

London 178

London 179

London 180

London 181

London 182

London 183

London 184

London 185

London 186

London 187

London 188

London 189

London 190

London 191

London 192

London 193

London 194

London 195

London 196

London 197

London 198

London 199

London 200

London 201

London 202

London 203

London 204

London 205

London 206

London 207

London 208

London 209

London 210

London 211

London 212

London 213

London 214

London 215

London 216

London 217

London 218

London 219

London 220

London 221

London 222

London 223

London 224

London 225

London 226

London 227

London 228

London 229

London 230

London 231

London 232

London 233

London 234

London 235

London 236

London 237

London 238

London 239

London 240

London 241

London 242

London 243

London 244

London 245

London 246

London 247

London 248

London 249

London 250

London 251

London 252

London 253

London 254

London 255

London 256

London 257

London 258

London 259

London 260

London 261

London 262

London 263

London 264

London 265

London 266

London 267

London 268

London 269

London 270

London 271

London 272

London 273

London 274

London 275

London 276

London 277

London 278

London 279

London 280

London 281

London 282

London 283

London 284

London 285

London 286

London 287

London 288

London 289

London 290

London 291

London 292

London 293

London 294

London 295

London 296

London 297

London 298

London 299

London 300

London 301

London 302

London 303

London 304

London 305

London 306

London 307

London 308

London 309

London 310

London 311

London 312

London 313